

Atty Dkt. No.: 10996640-2
USSN: 10/059,957

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections and allow Claims 1-15.

Claims 1-9 and 16-17 have been cancelled. The cancellation of claims is made without prejudice to renewal, without intent to acquiesce to any rejection, and without intent to surrender any subject matter encompassed by the canceled claims. The Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue any canceled subject matter in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications.

As no new matter has been added by the above amendments, the Applicants respectfully request the entry thereof.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 4-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Barth et al. (US 6,461,812). Claims 4-9 have been cancelled. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-3 and 16 and 17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hayes et al. (US 5,658,802) in view of Burke et al. (US 5,300,958). Claims 1-3 and 16 and 17 have been cancelled. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 10-15 have been allowed. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of Claims 10-15.

Atty Dkt. No.: 10990640-2
USSN: 10A159,957

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks, this application is considered to be in good and proper form for allowance and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

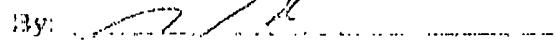
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required by this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1078, reference no. 10990640-2.

Respectfully submitted,
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